

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00852 140951Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 004993

O 140925Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2282

INFO AMEMBASS LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T MUSCAT 0852

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS CINCUSNAVEUR AND CINCPAC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MIPRR, US, MU, UL

SUBJECT: MASIRAH P-3 FLIGHT

REF: (A) STATE 173895; (B) LONDON 10704

1. AS INSTRUCTED, XBASSADOR INFORMED RANKING IN-COUNTRY OMANI FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL (DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL DEPARTMENT SALIM KHALFAN) MORNING OF JULY 14 ABOUT P-3 FLIGHT. EMPHASIZED THAT SULTAN AS WELL AS HMG HAD GIVEN CLEAR-
ANCE, THAT LOCAL BRITISH EMBASSY HAD INFORMED BRITISH COMMANDER AT MASIRAH AIRFIELD, AND THAT SUCH A FLIGHT HAD BEEN ANTICIPATED (THOUGH WITHOUT TIMING BEING KNOWN) IN AMBASSADOR'S LAST MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ZAWAWI JULY 7. ALSO STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF NO RPT NO PUBLICITY. KALFAN RAISED NO QUESTIONS AND SEEMED ENTIRELY RELAXED ABOUT MATTER.

2. LATE ON JULY 13., BRITISH EMBASSY HAD FIRST ALERTED US TO JULY 14 SCHEDULED ARRIVAL OF THIS FLIGHT AND TOLD US IT WAS INFORMING MASIRAH COMMANDER. BRITISH EMBASSY INSTRUCTIONS OBVIOUSLY ARE EMPHASIZING THAT THIS FLIGHT MUST REMAIN STRICTLY SECRET WITH ABSOLUTELY NO PUBLICITY. WE ARE KEEPING IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH UK

SECRET

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EMBASSY NEXT FEW DAYS AND HAVE ASKED TO BE ALERTED

SHOULD ANY PROBLEM COME UP.

3. EMBASSY THIS MORNING BEGAN TO RECEIVE SERIES OF
NAVY AND USDAO LONDON CABLES WITH ETA AND ETD INFO,
CREW COMPOSITION, ETC. REQUEST
BE ADVISED PRIORITY
BASIS WHEN PLANE ACTUALLY DEPARTS MASIRAH.
WOLLE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CINCUSNAVEUR & CINCPAC.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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